THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal for National Housing Policy

147. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for National Housing Policy with a view to providing shelter to the shelterless; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The National Housing and Habitat Policy of 1998 laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 29th July, 1998 envisages Government's role as enabler rather than builder.

Government aims to create an enabling environment by removing the legal, regulatory, technical and financial constraints facing the Housing Sector. This would help all sections of the Society to gain access to land finance and technology to obtain shelter for themselves. Government will however, continue to intervene directly for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society. The long term goal of this policy is to create surplus housing stock either on ownership of rental basis. The State Governments are required to draw up their own action plans to address the housing problems in their States Several steps including fiscal concession have also been initiated.

Funds for creating Employment for Urban Youth in NE States

148. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations of funds made by Government for creating employment opportunities for skilled/ unskilled educated urban youth of North Eastern States during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the target level for each North-East state in this regard during the said period;